Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Social Work

of

LAURIE-CAROL LATOUR

MA (Pepperdine University, 1996)
BA (University of Ottawa, 1993)

“Genealogy of Resilience in the Ontario Looking After Children System”

School of Social Work

Friday, December 16, 2016
10:00AM
David Turpin Building
Room A136

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Donna Jeffery, School of Social Work, University of Victoria (Supervisor)
Dr. Susan Strega, School of Social Work, UVic (Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Sandrina de Finney, School of Child & Youth Care, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Ulrich Mueller, Department of Psychology, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

Resiliency has become common in child welfare parlance in recent decades and producing resilient youth is touted as the panacea to improving notoriously poor outcomes for youth in care, when compared to youth not in the care of the state. The Looking After Children (LAC) system emerged in the U.K out of neoliberal and managerial policies of the 1990s. The LAC system, and its corresponding Assessment and Action Record (AAR), was subsequently imported to Canada and has been heralded to foster resilience in youth in care. The AAR is composed of hundreds of tick box questions posed to young people in care, child welfare workers, and foster parents; these questions are pedagogical and the mined data from the AAR is aggregated to inform child welfare policy. The Looking After Children: A Practitioner's Guide (2007) informs workers how to administer the AAR, Second Canadian Adaptation (AAR-C2), and it informs workers how to do their job. The notion of resilience in the Practitioner's Guide and the AAR-C2 are based in normative development and day to day experiences (Lemay & Ghazal, 2007).